

From: James Morgan Harrison
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 3:42pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I feel that the proposed settlement with Microsoft is not a sufficient remedy for their actions. Microsoft is and continues to be an oppressive monopoly. Even after repeated ruling and decisions by this and other courts, Microsoft has continued with the same business practices. Microsoft executive have yet to concede that Microsoft is actually a monopoly or that its actions have been in any way wrong.

I personally feel that many of Microsoft's actions have been detrimental to the computer industry and potentially many other industries. There are many quality products that are not able to enter the market because of Microsoft's dominance. In addition, there have been many smaller companies either bought-out or run out of business by Microsoft's actions. Microsoft forces its will on OEMs and others by preventing or discouraging them from making or selling products with or for non-Microsoft systems.

The proposed settlement does not go far enough to either remedy Microsoft's previous actions or to ensure me that Microsoft's practices will be stopped. There are many sections and definitions that are vary narrow or ambiguous and could potentially be completely circumvented by later Microsoft products. In addition, certain intellectual property such as file formats are not required to be disclosed. I feel that Microsoft's proprietary file formats have allowed them to gain dominance any other areas, such as office applications, since competing applications are not able to easily convert documents in the Microsoft format.

I feel that these anti-trust actions are the last any only mechanism left to prevent or erode the Microsoft monopoly. Many companies have tried and failed to compete with Microsoft in a "fair" open market. If the Department of Justice and the US Government can not or will not require a stronger settlement, then there will be little hope for any other company to challenge Microsoft in the future.

While I understand the court and Microsoft's desire to settle and prevent further legal cost and hassle, I do not think that agreeing to this settle for the sake of settlement is acceptable. I ask that the Department of Justice reconsider this settlement in favor of a more strict and carefully worded decision.

Thank you for you time and consideration.

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